that nothing was more frequent than .for the canoes from the mainland, when they happened to be a little too far out to sea, to shoot over to that side of the Island for .harbour ;, likewise, as they often met andfought In their-canoes, the victors having taken any prisoners would bring them over to this shore, where, according to their dreadful custom, being all cannibals., they would kill and eat them*

XXIII. *My Family*

I was now in my twenty-third year of residence In the island,, and was so naturalised to the place and to the manner of living, that could I have but enjoyed the certainty that no-savages would come to the place to disturb me, I could have been content to spend the rest of my time there, even to the last moment, till I laid me down and died. I had also arrived to some little diversions and amuse-ments that made the time pass more pleasantly than it did before. And first-, I had taught

my Poll to speak ; and he did It so familiarly
and"talked so plain, that It was very pleasant
to me ; and he lived with me no less than six-
and-twenty years* How long he might live
afterwards I know not: perhaps poor Poll